

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A recording medium substrate for an optical disc ~~according to claim 1, wherein~~including a light-transmitting layer disposed on at least one of surfaces of the recording medium substrate, wherein the recording medium substrate has a circumferential recess formed radially outside a data recording region on one of the surfaces of the recording medium substrate, thea radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of 0.965d from ~~the~~a center of the substrate or further, ~~preferably 0.975d or further, and more preferably 0.983d or further,~~ assuming d is ~~the~~a radius of ~~the~~an outermost circumference of the substrate.

9. (Currently Amended) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc ~~according to claim 2, wherein the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of 0.965d from the center of the substrate or further, preferably 0.975d or further, and more preferably 0.983d or further, assuming d is the radius of the outermost circumference of the substrate~~claim 8, wherein a radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess as viewed along a thickness of the recording medium substrate.

10. (Currently Amended) The recording medium substrate for an optical disk ~~according to claim 3, wherein the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of 0.965d from the center of the substrate or further, preferably 0.975d or further, and more preferably 0.983d or further, assuming d is the radius of the outermost circumference of the substrate~~claim 8, wherein a radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is

lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess and is higher than a deepest point of the recess as viewed along a thickness of the recording medium substrate.

11. (Currently Amended) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to ~~claim 5 wherein the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.965d$ from the center of the substrate or further, preferably $0.975d$ or further, and more preferably $0.983d$ or further, assuming d is the radius of the outermost circumference of the substrate~~claim 9, wherein the radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess and is higher than a deepest point of the recess as viewed along the thickness of the recording medium substrate.

12. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 8, wherein the recess has a depth that gradually decreases as it extends radially outward from a deepest point, the recess substantially smoothly continues to a peripheral region thereof so that the peripheral region has saw-tooth shape in its radial cross-section.

13. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 9, wherein the recess has a depth that gradually decreases as it extends radially outward from a deepest point, the recess substantially smoothly continues to a peripheral region thereof so that the peripheral region has saw-tooth shape in its radial cross-section.

14. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 10, wherein the recess has a depth that gradually decreases as it extends radially outward from the deepest point, the recess substantially smoothly continues to a peripheral region thereof so that the peripheral region has saw-tooth shape in its radial cross-section.

15. (New) A recording medium substrate made by using a mold system, the mold system comprising:

a ring mold having an inner peripheral wall for forming an outer peripheral surface of a recording medium substrate;

a pair of planar molds arranged opposite one another for forming top and bottom surfaces of the recording medium substrate;

a stamper fitted on at least one of the pair of planar molds, the stamper forming a data recording region on the recording medium substrate through a transfer surface thereof, the transfer surface transferring a predetermined set of data to the recording medium substrate, wherein

the stamper is provided with a stepped portion formed as bends in a material of the stamper, the stepped portion being configured to project from the transfer surface toward the recording medium substrate,

the recording medium substrate has a circumferential recess formed radially outside the data recording region on at least one of the surfaces of the recording medium substrate, the recess formed by the stepped portion of the stamper in the mold system, and

a radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than a radially innermost edge of the recess as viewed along a thickness of the recording medium substrate,

the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.965d$ from a center of the substrate or further, assuming d is the radius of the outermost circumference of the substrate.

16. (New) The recording medium substrate according to claim 15, wherein the radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess and is higher than a deepest point of the recess as viewed along a thickness of the recording medium substrate.

17. (New) A recording medium substrate made by using a mold system, the mold system comprising:

a ring mold having an inner peripheral wall for forming an outer peripheral surface of a recording medium substrate;

a pair of planar molds arranged opposite one another for forming top and bottom surfaces of the recording medium substrate;

a stamper fitted on at least one of the pair of planar molds, the stamper forming a data recording region on the recording medium substrate through a transfer surface thereof, the transfer surface transferring a predetermined set of data to the recording medium substrate, wherein

the stamper is provided with a stepped portion formed as bends in a material of the stamper, the stepped portion being configured to project from the transfer surface toward the recording medium substrate,

the recording medium substrate has a circumferential recess formed radially outside the data recording region on at least one of the surfaces of the recording medium substrate, the recess formed by the stepped portion of the stamper in the mold system, and

the recess has a depth that gradually decreases as it extends radially outward from a deepest point, the recess substantially smoothly continues to a peripheral region thereof so that the peripheral region has saw-tooth shape in its radial cross-section, and

a radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.965d$ from a center of the substrate or further, assuming d is the radius of the outermost circumference of the substrate.

18. (New) A recording medium substrate made by using a mold system, the mold system comprising:

a ring mold having an inner peripheral wall for forming an outer peripheral surface of a recording medium substrate;

a pair of planar molds arranged opposite one another for forming top and bottom surfaces of the recording medium substrate;

a stamper fitted on at least one of the pair of planar molds, the stamper forming a data recording region on the recording medium substrate through a transfer surface thereof, the transfer surface transferring a predetermined set of data to the recording medium substrate, wherein

the stamper is provided with a stepped portion formed as bends in a material of the stamper, the stepped portion being configured to project from the transfer surface toward the recording medium substrate,

the recording medium substrate has a circumferential recess formed radially outside the data recording region on at least one of the surfaces of the recording medium substrate, the recess formed by the stepped portion of the stamper in the mold system, and

a radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.965d$ from a center of the substrate or further, assuming d is the radius of the outermost circumference of the substrate.

19. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 8, the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.975d$ from the center of the substrate or further.

20. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 19, wherein a radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess as viewed along a thickness of the recording medium substrate.

21. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 19, wherein a radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the

radially innermost edge of the recess and is higher than a deepest point of the recess as viewed along a thickness of the recording medium substrate.

22. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 20, wherein the radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess and is higher than a deepest point of the recess as viewed along the thickness of the recording medium substrate.

23. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 19, wherein the recess has a depth that gradually decreases as it extends radially outward from a deepest point, the recess substantially smoothly continues to a peripheral region thereof so that the peripheral region has saw-tooth shape in its radial cross-section.

24. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 20, wherein the recess has a depth that gradually decreases as it extends radially outward from a deepest point, the recess substantially smoothly continues to a peripheral region thereof so that the peripheral region has saw-tooth shape in its radial cross-section.

25. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 21, wherein the recess has a depth that gradually decreases as it extends radially outward from the deepest point, the recess substantially smoothly continues to a peripheral region thereof so that the peripheral region has saw-tooth shape in its radial cross-section.

26. (New) The recording medium substrate according to claim 15, wherein the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.975d$ from the center of the substrate or further.

27. (New) The recording medium substrate according to claim 26, wherein the radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess and is higher than a deepest point of the recess as viewed along a thickness of the recording medium substrate.

28. (New) The recording medium substrate according to claim 17, wherein the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.975d$ from the center of the substrate or further.

29. (New) The recording medium substrate according to claim 18, wherein the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.975d$ from the center of the substrate or further.

30. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 8, wherein the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.983d$ from the center of the substrate or further.

31. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 30, wherein a radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess as viewed along a thickness of the recording medium substrate.

32. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 30, wherein a radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess and is higher than a deepest point of the recess as viewed along a thickness of the recording medium substrate.

33. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 31, wherein the radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess and is higher than a deepest point of the recess as viewed along the thickness of the recording medium substrate.

34. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 30, wherein the recess has a depth that gradually decreases as it extends radially outward from a deepest point, the recess substantially smoothly continues to a peripheral region thereof so that the peripheral region has saw-tooth shape in its radial cross-section.

35. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 31, wherein the recess has a depth that gradually decreases as it extends radially outward from a deepest point, the recess substantially smoothly continues to a peripheral region thereof so that the peripheral region has saw-tooth shape in its radial cross-section.

36. (New) The recording medium substrate for an optical disc according to claim 32, wherein the recess has a depth that gradually decreases as it extends radially outward from the deepest point, the recess substantially smoothly continues to a peripheral region thereof so that the peripheral region has saw-tooth shape in its radial cross-section.

37. (New) The recording medium substrate according to claim 15, wherein the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.983d$ from the center of the substrate or further.

38. (New) The recording medium substrate according to claim 37, wherein the radially outermost edge of the recess on one of the surfaces is lower than the radially innermost edge of the recess and is higher than a deepest point of the recess as viewed along a thickness of the recording medium substrate.

39. (New) The recording medium substrate according to claim 17, wherein the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.983d$ from the center of the substrate or further.

40. (New) The recording medium substrate according to claim 18, wherein the radially innermost edge of the recess is positioned at a distance of $0.983d$ from the center of the substrate or further, assuming d is the radius of the outermost circumference of the substrate.